

Applicants : Christopher D. Ruppel et al.
Appln. No. : 09/911,087
Page : 8

REMARKS

In the present Office Action, claims 1-5, 8-14, 17-20 and 22-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,668,172 (hereinafter Yoshimura); claims 6, 15 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,416,024 (hereinafter Ugari); and claims 7 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yoshimura in view Ugari and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,813,599 (hereinafter Campbell). Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 6 and 8 for clarification.

At the outset, Applicants submit that Yoshimura teaches away from Applicants' claimed subject matter in that Yoshimura discloses modifying time constants associated with processing of a received signal within a tuner module, responsive to a speed of cellular telephone (see, for example, column 4, lines 46-59). In contrast, Applicants' claimed subject matter is directed toward modifying time constants associated with the processing of collected signal information, which is provided by a separate signal quality circuit (see Figs. 1 and 3).

With specific reference to Fig. 3, an exemplary electrical block diagram of a signal quality circuit 106B is depicted that allows time constants to be dynamically modified. As is disclosed, an I²C control block 110 is coupled to a plurality of switches, e.g., field-effect transistors, 302-312, which allow time constants associated with detectors 210-220 to be dynamically altered. Based upon a vehicle speed, a processor 108 (see Figs. 1 and 3) provides an I²C control signal on a signal line 107 to the I²C control block 110, which causes one or more of the switches 302-312 to close or open. Closing one of the switches 302-312 causes one of the capacitors C11-C16 to be added in parallel with one of the existing capacitors C1-C6, respectively. This, in turn, causes one or more of the attack and decay time constants associated with the detectors 210-220 to increase. As is disclosed, this is implemented to adjust the time constants responsive to the speed of the vehicle. As is also disclosed, the capacitors C1-C6 may be removed and the capacitors C11-C16 and switches 302-312 may be

Applicants : Christopher D. Ruppel et al.
Appln. No. : 09/911,087
Page : 9

replaced with analog circuitry, whose capacitance can be continuously varied to modify associated attack and decay times.

In sum, Yoshimura is not directed to a receiver that includes a signal quality circuit that provides signal information that indicates the quality of a received signal. Further, Yoshimura does not teach or suggest, either alone or in combination with the other applied references, a signal quality circuit that provides collected signal information that is used to modify at least one time constant associated with the processing of the collected signal information responsive to a determined speed. As noted above, Yoshimura actually teaches away from Applicants' claimed subject matter as set forth in independent claims 1 (as amended), 10, 19 and 23.

Further, Applicants submit that, for at least the foregoing reasons, claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-22 and 24-26, which depend upon allowable claims, are also allowable. Applicants respectfully submit that this reply is fully responsive to the above-referenced Office Action.

CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-26, as amended, are allowable. If the Examiner has any questions or comments with respect to this reply, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 949-9610.

Respectfully submitted,

05-09-05
Date


Michael R. Long, Reg. No. 42 808
PRICE, HENEVELD, COOPER, DEWITT & LITTON, LLP
695 Kenmoor SE
P.O. Box 2567
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49501-2567
616/949-9610

MRL/saw